

**Alaska FASD Partnership Steering Committee**  
**Wednesday, June 13, 2018 – FINAL MINUTES**

**I. Introductions.** Lanny Mommsen, Lakota Holman, Mike Jeffery, Alex Edwards, Jenn Wagaman, Clayton Holland, Jeanne Gerhart, Teri Tibbett.

**II. Approval of Agenda.** Approved, as amended.

**III. Approval of Minutes from 4.11.18.** Approved, as amended. Change to 5-year plan.

**IV. Legislative Advocacy Update (Teri)**

Teri offered a brief overview of the bills and budget items that passed in 2018, highlighting the following: \$12 million for substance abuse services that include detox, residential and outpatient treatment, sobering centers, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), and more; HB 151 addressing the state's foster care system; funding for Alaska Psychiatric Institute (API) to address increased capacity and funding for hospitals to better equip themselves to serve patients with mental health disorders; justice reform changes, and more. A preliminary report on bills and budget items that passed this legislative session was sent to Partnership members in advance of today's meeting.

**V. ANTHC's Behavioral Health Aide Program (Lakota)**

Under Community Health Aide Program, each tribal health organization employs their own health aides, both trainees level 1-3, practitioners. Xiomara Owns oversees certification and training for the BHA program, educational, marketing, recruitment, etc. Aides are trained in different programs statewide, but ANTHC is working on a centralized training program, would include academic tract with a degree and certification tract through Barrow college. Credits rural human services, rural behavioral aide programs (forums), and other methods. BHA are currently servicing over 50 communities. Pieces of the puzzle: Community Health Aide program, BHA program, Dental Health Aide program. A breakdown of behavioral health aide program providers by ethnicity, includes: 71 Alaska Native; 31 Caucasian; 5 African American; 2 Other; 53 Not Identified.

Mike asked what they do. Different training levels for different certification, also different tribal health organizations have different parameters (look on Community Health Aide website outlines expectations for different levels). May in BH education, presentation in schools and community, chemical dependency counseling, one-on-one therapy, therapeutic groups, etc.

Jeanne – are village-based counselors included in the ANTHC BHA system? Answer: Some locations use different titles, but operate under the same title.

**V. FASD 5-year plan (Lanny and Jeanne)**

At the last workgroup meeting on April 24, workgroups reported what they've been working on. Next meeting is August 23 for an update, followed by October 1 for a full one-day planning meeting for the next year. Individual workgroups are meeting monthly/bi-monthly to address objectives. Recently had a LARC meeting who is working on a strategic plan. The five workgroups: prevention, diagnostic and screening, school education, community education and outreach, Systems Change, workforce development.

**VI. Member Updates**

Mike J. – Mike connected with Teri to get the FASD tote to the School nurses conference in Anchorage. It was decided to leave the tote with Hope in Anchorage for future use. The FASD presentations in Barrow schools went well. The Vancouver FASD conference highlights: Change-makers, are people with FASD or close advocates who were "demanding" to be heard, offered a film short "This is Me." Panel of mothers. Dan Dubovsky presented. Australian Aboriginal efforts include

collaboration with Rotaries that invite exchanges related to FASD (Marilyn Pierce-Bulger is familiar with it and can speak to it). Google the conference to view the talks that happened and the papers presented.

Teri – Shared two books by Native American authors about growing up in alcoholic households. Both authors were featured in Time Magazine recently (the one with the Royal Wedding on the cover) and noted their work is reaching national status. “There There” is by Tommy Orange and “Heart Berries” is by Terese Mailhot.

Teri also shared that NAMI Alaska is working on applying for a grant that would provide family mental health support in rural areas through telehealth networking. Mike Jeffery and Jeanne Gerhart volunteered to talk with NAMI to offer input.

Teri also reported on criminal justice reform and ACEs education and outreach that her office is working on.

Clayton – Parent groups had end of the year barbeque for FASD family support groups in Soldotna, Deb is looking to provide credit courses on FASD for teachers through UAA system; hiring elementary counselors and/or behavioral health specialists for the district, working on job descriptions, borough recognizes the importance and is supportive. State KBSD stats on behavior are half as likely to be suspended showing their work with Deb is paying off. He will send out the paper on that.

## **VII. Moving Forward**

Lanny suggested getting started on FASD Awareness Month. Teri will do some investigating and send out an email between now and the next meeting about how to move forward.

Teri discussed the Partnership’s ad hoc workgroup on training for OCS workers and foster parents and suggested now that HB 151 passed, a bill transforming a lot of the foster care system which includes a section on training for new OCS workers, the group may want to revisit the recommendations and meet with people at OCS to weigh in.

## **VIII. Announcements**

- “The Brain Injury Outreach Clinic” sponsored by ABIN in Nome. Will be screening five inmates from Anvil Mountain.
- Disability Pride events in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Soldotna. Lanny is working on the Anchorage events which include a Governor’s and muni proclamations, events at a park with food booths, speakers, Special Olympics. Teri is working in Juneau to promote “Andy Irons: Kissed by God” a film about a famous surfer with addiction and bipolar disorder.

**Next Meeting:** July 11, 2018